

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Withdrawn) A portable point storing member for storing points corresponding to moneys, comprising:

a first cryptogram storing portion storing a first cryptogram set by a first person concerned with manufacturing of said point storing member;

a second cryptogram storing portion storing a second cryptogram set by a second person different from said first person and concerned with use of said point storing member;

changing means for reading said stored points in accordance with an externally applied read instruction, and changing said stored points in accordance with an externally applied point changing instruction; and

determining means for determining whether said changing means should be allowed to change the points in a point increasing direction or not, based on said first and second cryptograms.

2. (Canceled)

3. (Currently Amended) A point storing member comprising:

point storing means for storing points corresponding to moneys, and having data holding portions equal in number to said points for holding write data;

read means for reading out the points stored in said point storing means in accordance with an externally applied read instruction;

a point rewrite information storing portion for storing point rewrite information;

a first cryptogram storing portion storing a first cryptogram, set by a first person concerned with manufacturing of said point storing member;

a second cryptogram storing portion storing a second cryptogram set by a second person different from said first person and concerned with use of said point storing member;

a controller coupled to said first cryptogram storing portion and to said second cryptogram storing portion, and configured to receive an external cryptogram;

a data converting unit configured to convert said first cryptogram stored in said first cryptogram storing portion to a converted first cryptogram data;

a comparator configured to combine the converted first cryptogram data with said second cryptogram and generating a combined cryptogram data; and

a point changing means for changing the points based on the stored point rewrite information when said combined cryptogram data matches with said external cryptogram.

4. (Canceled)

5. (Withdrawn) A method of using a portable point storing member, comprising the steps of:

storing, in advance, points corresponding to moneys, a first cryptogram set by a first person concerned with manufacturing of said point storing member and a second cryptogram set by a second person different from said first person and concerned with use of said point storing member; reading the points stored in said point sorting member in accordance with an externally applied read instruction; and changing said points in accordance with an externally applied point changing instruction, wherein

changing of the points in a direction of increasing the points based on said point changing instruction is performed after determining whether said point changing instruction is to be followed or not, based on said first and second cryptograms.

6. (Canceled)

7. (Withdrawn) A method of using a portable point sorting member having portability; reading the points stored in said point storing member in accordance with an externally applied read instruction; and changing said points in accordance with an externally applied point changing instruction, wherein

said point storing member has data holding portions corresponding in number to said points,

said point storing member stores the points in accordance with the states of the respective data holding portions, and is allowed to change only from the first state to the second state,

said point storing member stores, in advance, point rewrite information,

said point rewrite information includes a first cryptogram set by a first person concerned with manufacturing of said point storing member and a second cryptogram set by a second person different from said first person and concerned with use of said point storing member, and

said point storing member is used such that each of said data holding portions is changed from the second state to the first state only when applied information matches with said point rewrite information.

8. (Withdrawn) The method of using the portable point storing member according to claim 7, wherein

said point rewrite information is supplied such that data relating to said first cryptogram is supplied in accordance with timing different from that of supply of data relating to said second cryptogram.

9. (Currently Amended) A point storing member comprising:

storing means for storing points;

a point rewrite information storing portion for storing point rewrite information;

a first secret data area for storing a first cryptogram setable by a first person concerned with manufacturing of said point storing member, said first cryptogram characterizing secret data of said first person;

a second secret data area for storing a second cryptogram setable by a second person different from said first person and concerned with use of said point storing member, said second cryptogram characterizing secret data of said second person;

changing means for changing the points stored in said storing means;

receiving means for receiving data to be verified;

converting mean for converting said first cryptogram into a converted first cryptogram data;

cryptogram collating means for combining said converted first cryptogram data with said second cryptogram and generating a combined cryptogram data;

comparing means for comparing said data to be verified and received via said receiving means with said combined cryptogram data, wherein

the changing means changes the points stored in said storing means with the stored point rewrite information and based on a predetermined result from the comparison by said comparing means.

10. (Canceled)

11. (Canceled)

12. (Canceled)